

— Ride Safe



Eliminating Safety Defects in Rideshare Vehicles

Rideshare platforms should notify their drivers of any outstanding safety recalls affecting the driver's vehicle and prohibit such vehicles from operating on the platform if the recall has not been addressed within an appropriate amount of time.

Rideshare Vehicle Defects

Nearly one in six Uber and Lyft vehicles are operating under an active recall according to an investigation by the Government Accountability Office. These rideshare vehicles pose serious threats not only to passengers and drivers, but also to the general public. No state is immune—no Congressional district is spared (Appendix 1).

Defect Policies

Several rideshare platforms shift the burden of monitoring and addressing defects to their drivers, effectively turning a blind eye to recalled vehicles operating on their platforms. Uber's policies state that their drivers are responsible for "monitoring for and repairing any parts that are recalled by the vehicle manufacturer." Lyft's <u>Terms of Service</u> state their drivers must ensure "any and all applicable safety recalls have been or will be remedied per manufacturer instructions."

Recommendation

Congress should pass legislation requiring:

- Monitoring: Rideshare companies should monitor publicly available recall databases and notify their drivers of any open recall not later than 5 days after that recall is published in the database. CARFAX operates a Free Vehicle Recall Search Service for business and governmental organizations, which provides quick search results for bulk recall searches.
- Remedies: Rideshare companies should be prohibited from connecting passengers to vehicles that have not been remedied within 60 days of notification and a remedy being available. For recalls involving a 'do not drive warning, rideshare companies should be prohibited from connecting passengers to vehicles that have not been remedied within 5 days of notification.
- Enforcement: The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) or the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) should be granted the authority to enforce these requirements.
- Reporting: Rideshare companies should be required to submit reports detailing their practices for addressing recalled vehicles and providing the annual recall completion rate of vehicles on their platform.

Estimated Percentage of Ridesourcing Vehicles That Had One or More Open Safety Recalls by State



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State	Estimated percentage	Lower bound	Upper bound
United States	16.4%	16.3%	16.5%
Alabama	19.0%	18.7%	19.5%
Alaska	17.9%	17.7%	18.1%
Arizona	16.4%	15.8%	17.8%
Arkansas	18.4%	18.2%	18.7%
California	13.3%	11.3%	16.0%
Colorado	16.5%	15.4%	18.9%
Connecticut	15.7%	15.0%	17.2%
Delaware	18.2%	18.0%	18.6%
District of Columbia	12.5%	12.4%	12.7%
Florida	16.8%	16.2%	17.6%
Georgia	17.4%	16.6%	19.1%
Hawaii	15.4%	14.8%	16.8%
Idaho	18.5%	18.1%	19.1%
Illinois	16.5%	15.8%	18.2%
Indiana	19.5%	19.2%	20.0%
Iowa	17.8%	17.6%	18.1%
Kansas	17.2%	16.9%	17.6%
Kentucky	19.4%	18.9%	20.2%
Louisiana	18.9%	18.2%	19.9%
Maine	16.2%	16.0%	16.4%
Maryland	13.2%	12.7%	14.0%
Massachusetts	13.4%	12.8%	14.8%
Michigan	18.3%	17.7%	19.7%
Minnesota	13.4%	12.8%	14.8%
Mississippi	22.9%	22.7%	23.1%

State	Estimated percentage	Lower bound	Upper bound
Missouri	17.9%	17.3%	19.3%
Montana	14.6%	14.4%	15.1%
Nebraska	14.9%	14.6%	15.2%
Nevada	16.3%	15.1%	18.9%
New Hampshire	13.4%	13.2%	13.6%
New Jersey	16.6%	16.2%	17.1%
New Mexico	18.8%	18.4%	19.4%
New York	17.4%	16.9%	18.2%
North Carolina	17.9%	17.4%	18.6%
North Dakota	19.7%	19.5%	20.0%
Ohio	17.9%	17.7%	18.3%
Oklahoma	20.4%	20.2%	20.6%
Oregon	14.3%	12.7%	16.7%
Pennsylvania	17.8%	17.0%	19.0%
Rhode Island	15.0%	14.9%	15.1%
South Carolina	18.1%	17.9%	18.4%
South Dakota	20.4%	20.1%	21.0%
Tennessee	19.7%	18.9%	20.8%
Texas	18.9%	18.3%	19.8%
Utah	17.0%	16.2%	18.8%
Vermont	15.3%	14.6%	16.7%
Virginia	13.3%	12.6%	14.7%
Washington	16.6%	15.7%	18.8%
West Virginia	16.0%	15.8%	16.2%
Wisconsin	14.6%	14.5%	14.8%
Wyoming	18.1%	17.6%	18.8%

Source: The United States Government Accountability Office. Extent of Open Recalls among Ridesharing Vehicles. Report to Congressional Committees, May 2023.

